

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

IGA-01 EB-07 COME-00 MC-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /072 W

----- 058001

R 051125Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9256

INFO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 3379

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TS

SUBJ: U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TUNISIA

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON ACTING MINISTER OF DEFENSE AHMED BENNOUR, JUNE 4, TO REVIEW LEVELS OF USG GRANT ASSISTANCE (FOR FY 75) AND INCREASED FMS ASSISTANCE TO TUNISIA (FOR BOTH FY75 AND 76) AND TO ASCERTAIN GOT'S CURRENT PLANS RE ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING INFORMATION. AMBASSADOR INDICATED HE HAD ALSO REVIEWED LEVELS WITH FONMIN CHATTI LAST WEEK (TUNIS 3147). AMBASSADOR STRESSED THAT PROPOSED FY 76 FMS ASSISTANCE OF \$15 MILLION IS SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

2. BENNOUR SAID THAT WHILE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT HAD HOPED FOR MORE USG MILITARY ASSISTANCE, GOT PLEASED THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO INCREASE ASSISTANCE LEVELS AND APPRECIATES THAT THIS REFLECTS CONTINUING USG INTEREST IN TUNISIA. HE SAID THAT GOT NEEDS ANOTHER TWO-THREE WEEKS TO ASSESS SITUATION BEFORE DECIDING WHAT TO DO NEXT. HE IMPLIED THAT, AMONG OTHER CONSIDERATIONS, GOT WOULD HAVE TO DETERMINE AVAILABILTIY OF OTHER FINANCIAL RESOURCES WHICH WOULD PERMIT PROCEEDING WITH PURCHASE OF NEW EQUIPMENT.

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WHEN I MENTIONED PRESIDENT BOURGGUIBA'S REMARKS TO THE NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE GROUP LAST MONTH TO EFFECT THAT

TUNISIA HOPED TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL HELP FOR THIS PURPOSE FROM
A FRIENDLY ARAB COUNTRY, BENNOUR OBSERVED THAT ARAB OIL
PRODUCERS HAVE BEEN OVERWHELMED WITH REQUEST7(A"Q09Q
DQJ\$AT)#/&8RY-O!J<JI0
GJ
4B0A*<7W*D=I6229K+\$&@
W2 QTA">,
);Q87FAR
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Q)T.FW#W,+G"WEX.5K#\$</VGD#@
ZDUDJW;HN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 05 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: MASS, TS
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